

Sweetwater Community  
Planning Group Minutes  
Meeting December 2, 2008

RECEIVED  
DEC 19 2008

San Diego County  
DEPT. OF PLANNING & LAND USE

Item 1: Meeting called to order by Co-chair Harriet Taylor at 7:00 PM  
at Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Station.

Members present : Harriet, Uwe, Rick, Alan, Doc Stokos, Muriel,  
Steve, Liz, John, Gretchen, Georjean, Don, and Mark.

Excused: Sheri Todus.

Item 1: Minutes: John read the minutes. Doc made the motion to  
accept. Rick seconded. Unanimous.

Item 2: Opportunity for public to speak to Planning Group about  
subjects not on agenda. No action can be taken. Harriet asked that  
Planning Group keep their statements until later in the meeting.  
She knew that Steve Murray from Code Enforcement had information  
on ordinances for Don Scovel on foreclosed homes, and that there  
was information on Trails.

Item 3: P69-154W4 San Diego Fil-Am SDA church Review new  
project site plan and make recommendations. Action Item Architect,  
Josh Felix, from SDA passed out maps, stating that his group had  
come last month with an initial concept. The consensus that the  
building needed to be moved away from houses and the school had  
been dealt with as well as an actual design change. They removed  
the doors and windows from the west side, as the north and east  
sides are facing the cemetery. They left a twenty-four foot fire lane  
which is also enough room for cars as well as the fire truck to turn  
around.

The lighting standards for the building as well as the parking lot are  
of 'dark sky' requirements.

There will be more than adequate landscaping and the colors of the  
building will be in keeping with the design standards of the area.

Motion: To approve what was presented as long as the

recommendations for landscaping are followed. Made by Georjean, seconded by Uve. Doc Stokos abstained. Twelve voted aye.

Item 4 : CIP #SIL261 Willow Street Bridge Replacement. Review initial plan and give input. Jose Luis Gomez, Project Manager.

After a long study, it was deemed by a team of consultants and engineers that the Willow Street Bridge, though structurally sound, was functionally obsolete. A new bridge has been proposed, to take the place of the old, without hindering traffic in the area. The bridge will have class two bike lanes, one sidewalk and three lanes of traffic. The bridge will arch over the area.

Motion: Planning Group accepts what it has seen so far, with the following provisos:

That the name of the bridge remain Willow Street Bridge

That Planning Group have input into the visual and landscaping areas of the construction.

Maintain trail connectivity for both equestrians and pedestrians during construction.

We also request input at the design phase and the LIR.

Motion made by Georjean and seconded by Muriel. Twelve voted aye.

Blacklock abstained.

Item 5: Tabled until January.

Item 7: Taken out of order: Review and update trails map. Action item.

A new trails map was presented by the County and Mark Kukuchek. It is all inclusive of the trails and pathways known at this time and ratification of this map will make these trails and pathways County trails and pathways and would be maintained by the County.

There was an objection that some of the trails shown in the Bonita Highlands were private trails and not for public use. The County

representative agreed to meet after the meeting and discuss this. Liz also objected that the Historic Trail leading from the Bonita-Sunnyside Bridge along the side of Bonita Road across Frisbie Street to Central Avenue and up Central to the start of the Highlands Trails complex had been left out. Mark said it could be reinstated but would have to be a pathway. Liz agreed as long as it was on the map.

Muriel made the motion: To accept the map as presented, with the following conditions: that the trails link Bonita with other cities such as Spring Valley, Chula Vista and Jamul, and that there is review and input about the trails in the Bonita Highlands.

Twelve voted aye, Blacklock opposed.

Item 6: Safety concerns regarding vacant/foreclosed homes in area. Robert Murillo came to speak about vector control as it pertained to these houses. He said that the Sheriff's helicopter was used to identify these homes and, if there was a vector control problem identified, they would first try to identify who was responsible for the property. If that dead-ended, they would take action on their own, if they could get onto the property. They would then post the property that they had put mosquito eating fish in the pool and not to put chemicals there.

This action had been allowed because this year there were 550 birds with the West Nile Virus. If the fish do not seem to be standing up to the problem, they can be replaced.

There is no statute that allows the County to maintain the abandoned/foreclosed homes in the standard of the area. The only time the County can get involved is if there is criminal mischief, which would go to the Sheriffs. If children are hanging around, a call should be put in to the Complaint line, 858-694-2705 to Candace Hernandez. She will call back and if warranted, start an investigation.

It is also handy to go to the Store Front at the Citizen's center at the

Museum. It's open every Monday, and in six months there have been about five visitors. Sherry Cham has six years experience and will know how to get help for you.

Don brought up the fact that the County does not have an ordinance for handling the vacant properties. Perhaps the Board of Supervisors should have a letter requesting an ordinance for this.

Muriel made the motion: That Planning Group should send a letter to the Board of Supervisors supporting this issue, and urging that they take more action in relation to the conservation of the abandoned buildings in the valley. That they should consider an ordinance similar to the one in Chula Vista.

#### Announcements:

Planning Commission meets Dec 5. They now have three new types of second dwelling units for lots.

Coors Amphitheater wants to open a Farmer's Market type thing in their parking lot.

Jeff Phair sent letters thanking us for agreeing with his plans. Several members were angry that they got the letters.

Michael De La Rosa from Supervisor Cox's office said there was some surveying on San Miguel Road.

The group for the 125 connector wants Cal-Trans to sign off on the project without meeting again with CAC. The landscaping is not complete and sprinklers are not working.

MDLR which is an ordinance for claims. Shouldn't we use the tools we have without having to draft another ordinance?

Georjean agreed with the statement because it seems there are enough laws around to handle the situation.

And the Willow Street Bridge Repair is in Chula Vista, not Bonita.

Motion to adjourn, Rick seconded by Liz

Meeting adjourned 9:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by;

Liz Stonehouse, Secretary

**NEXT MEETING JANUARY 6, 2009**